

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 /083 W
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P R 051020Z JUL 77
FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6314
INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, SHUM, SF
SUBJECT: ARREST OF BIKO, RAMPHELE, AND MTINTSO

1. BLACK LEADERS STEVE BIKO, MAMPHELE RAMPHELE AND THENJIWE MTINTSO WERE ARRESTED IN KING WILLIAMS TOWN EVENING OF JULY 4. ALL THREE WERE ALREADY UNDER FIVE YEARS BANNING ORDERS. THEY WERE ARRESTED AT BIKO'S RESIDENCE. NO CHARGES HAVE YET BEEN LAID, BUT PROBABILITY IS THAT CHARGES, IF FORTHCOMING, WILL IN EACH CASE BE COMMUNICATING WITH ANOTHER BANNED PERSON.

2. RAMPHELE AND MTINTSO, IN ADDITION TO BEING BANNED, ARE BOTH BANISHED FROM KING WILLIAMS TOWN AREA, RAMPHELE TO NORTHERN TRANSVAL AND MTINTSO TO SOWETO. BOTH WERE IN KING WILLIAMS TOWN AS SUBPOENAED KEY WITNESSES IN INQUEST INTO DEATH IN DETENTION LAST YEAR OF MAPETLA MOHAPI. INQUEST DUE TO RESUME JULY 6. RAMPHELE, A MEDICAL DOCTOR

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WHO WAS PRESENT AT MOHAPI POST-MORTEM, WAS UNTIL HIS BANNING DIRECTOR OF BLACK COMMUNITY PROGRAMS IN KING WILLIAMS TOWN. MTINTSO WAS FORMERLY A REPORTER FOR THE EAST LONG DAILY DISPATCH. SHE REMAINS ON THE PAYROLL, BUT CANNOT FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY UNDER HER BANNING ORDER. BIKO IS DUE TO APPEAR IN COURT JULY 11 ON SEPARATE CHARGES OF SUBORNING WITNESSES.

3. BLACK COMMUNITY PROGRAMS OFFICIAL WHO WAS AT BIKO RESIDENCE AT TIME OF ARRESTS TOLD US THAT LAW WAS IN FACT NOT CONTRAVENED SINCE THE THREE BANNED PERSONS WERE IN SEPARATE ROOMS OF HOUSE AND NOT COMMUNICATING WITH EACH OTHER. ACCORDING TO THIS OFFICIAL, TWO SECURITY POLICEMEN APPEARED AT RESIDENCE AT 1830 JULY 4 AND ORDERED GUESTS IN HOUSE TO DISPERSE WITHIN FIVE MINUTES OR FACE ARREST FOR CONTRAVENING BANNING ORDERS. PERSONS IN HOUSE REFUSED TO LEAVE ON GROUNDS THAT THEY WERE NOT VIOLATING BANNING ORDERS OR COMMITTING ANY OTHER OFFENSE. APROXIMATELY HALF HOUR LATER TWENTY ADDITIONAL UNIFORMED AND PLAINSCLOTHES POLICE ARRIVED, RESTATED BUSINESS, AND MADE ARRESTS.WHITE

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 05-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Event:
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